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Recreation Commission Minutes 07/28/2009

Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes
Wednesday, July 28, 2009
Approved

The Park and Recreation Commission came to order at 6:45 PM on the first floor of the Arlington Senior Center on Wednesday, July 28, 2009.

Members in attendance included: Leslie Mayer, Jen Rothenberg, Jim Robillard and Don Vitters. Also in attendance was Director of Recreation Joseph Connelly.

Members of the public included: Cathy Saleh and Christine Deshler.

Approval of Minutes

June Minutes were tabled until next month.

Fall Field Plan Portable Restrooms

Mr. Connelly reviewed the portable restroom plan and placements for the fall 2009 season. Mr. Connelly stated that units would be placed at Hurd, Bishop, McClennen, Thorndike, Hills Hill, Robbins and Florence. Ms. Saleh commented on the overwhelming success of the programs. The Commission discussed the fee payment procedures and the long range plans for the program. Ms. Mayer stated that the Commission should review the process each season. The Commission agreed. Ms. Mayer and Mr. Connelly stated that Hurd Field was on a single strike and out policy because of the two previous tip-overs.

Mr. Vitters motioned to approved the fall plan, seconded by Mr. Robillard and approved 4-0.

Gifts for Park Dontations

Mr. Connelly and Ms. Mayer reviewed the new Gifts for Park donations policy. Mr. Connelly stated that the policy was put together using a number of similar policies from throughout the country. Ms. Mayer stated that the purpose of the policy was to enable the Commission to accept certain gifts for parks without the input of the Public Memorial Committee.

Mr. Connelly reviewed each step of the proposal and the new fee structure. Ms. Mayer stated the fees were actual fees comprised of actual purchase cost, delivery costs, installation costs and estimated maintenance and replacement costs. Mr. Connelly will send the Commission the actual breakdown.

The Commission discussed the fees and the process of placing a plaque on an existing bench or planting. The Commission decided that those requests could be taken up separately. Ms. Mayer stated that the Town Manager and Town Counsel will have to sign off on the new policy.

Mr. Connelly stated that upon final approval he would send the new policy to the three or four individuals who have made inquiries.

Ms. Rothenberg motioned to approve the new policy with the condition that Town Counsel and the Town Manager approved the

policy as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0.

Special Event Approvals -

Lauren Bellow Yoga in the Park – Waldo – 8/29 – The Commission and Mr. Connelly discussed the issue of private businesses using town facilities for business. Mr. Connelly stated that if this was open to the public it may be acceptable. The Commission asked Mr. Connelly to gather more information.

Pleasant Street Church – Menotomy Rocks Park – 8/16-11 – 2 pm – Mr. Robillard motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg and approved 4-0.

Arlington Family Connection – Bishop School Field – 8/30 – 4 pm – dusk - Mr. Robillard motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg and approved 4-0.

Kristin Hall – Orienteering – Menotomy Rocks park – 9/27 – 11 – 2 pm – Mr. Vitters motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg and approved 4-0.

Arlington Height Nursery – Parellel Playground – 8/26 – 6 – 7:30 pm - Mr. Vitters motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg and approved 4-0.

Mr. Joshua Wachs – North Union – 9/7 – Volleyball with Cookout - Mr. Vitters motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg and approved 4-0.

Rink and Recreation Update – End of Year Budgets

Mr. Connelly reviewed the end of season budgets for both the Recreation and Rink Division. Mr. Connelly indicated that the Recreation ended the year with a deficit of approximately \$28,000 and the Rink ended the year with a surplus of approximately \$29,000. Mr. Connelly stated that the reason the amounts are still approximate is because some of the end of year invoices were still being journaled.

Mr. Connelly did also review the Friends of Park Fund and Field Fee Account with the Commission. Mr. Connelly realized that these two munis reports did not give an accurate picture of the accounts and will provide the Commission with a report in a different format.

Capital Update

Thorndike Parking – Mr. Connelly stated that the project was slated to be bid in early winter for a spring/summer build.

Summer Street Playground – Design for the playground has been awarded to Warner Larson Associates. Mr. Connelly stated that the public hearing would be held in early September

Summer Street Fencing and Pavement Removal – Mr. Connelly stated that he still had to meet with Mr. Bean on these issues.

Arlington Sport Complex Study – Mr. Connelly handed out the draft of the Sasaki Proposal for the Commission to review and submit feedback.

Park Policies

Ms. Rothenberg and Mr. Connelly discussed the need for the Covenant School to complete and official field request this season.

Committee Updates

Green Dog Committee - Ms. Mayer stated that there is a private group is continuing to pursue this issue.

Skateboard Park – Mr. Connelly and Ms. Mayer reviewed their meeting with a parent regarding small upgrades to the facility for safety and proper equipment usage. Mr. Connelly stated that he was trying to set up a meeting with the equipment designer and

installer.

Millbrook Linear Park – Ms. Mayer reviewed the Committee's progress.

Correspondence

Mr. Connelly reviewed the correspondence from the Summer Street Neighborhood Association, the Health/Recreation/Cop Program, Spy Pond Motor use, Fencing of Robbins Farm Playground and Fires at Menotomy Rocks Park. The Commission briefly discussed each of these issues.

Other

Ms. Rothenberg motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation